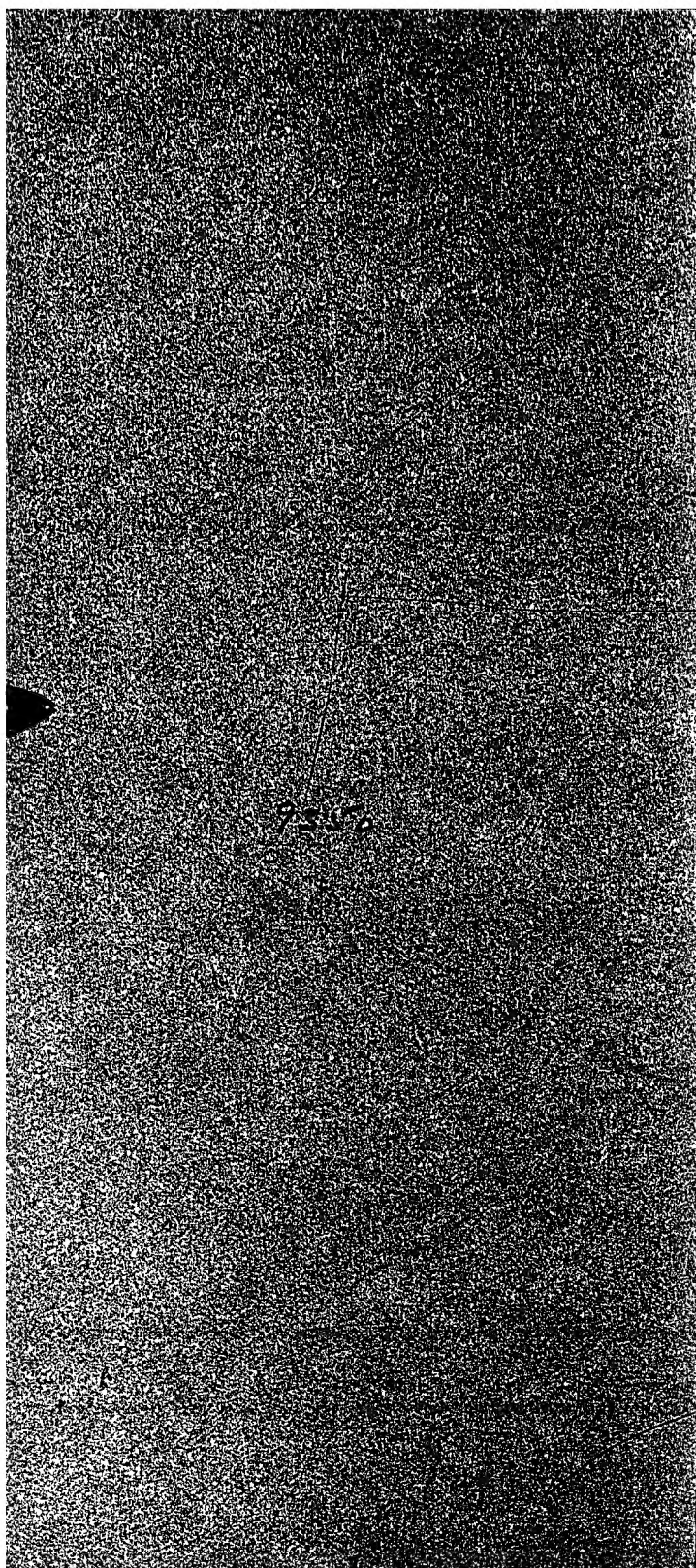


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COAL

**WHERE
IT IS
AND
HOW TO
GET IT**



FOREWORD

THE production of coal from Alberta during the year 1917 was 4,863,414 tons and with sufficient market the mines at the present time in operation could undoubtedly increase this production to 7,500,000 tons without increasing the amount of labor at present engaged.

Notwithstanding these facts it may very well be asked why it should be necessary to import into Western Canada at the present time 3,000,000 tons of coal per year from the United States particularly at a time when every person is or should be exerting himself to the breaking point to do his share in the gigantic struggle which is engaging practically the whole world. According to press reports being received, the operation of munition plants and other essential industries in the United States and Eastern Canada are being very seriously interfered with owing to lack of fuel, and the thing that strikes one who has taken the trouble to familiarize himself with the situation, is the absurdity that such a condition should be allowed to exist.

More than sufficient fuel is available to supply all the demands existing or likely to exist in the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and in addition that portion of the United States immediately to the south of us, and it would surely be nothing but patriotism for any resident of Western Canada to use Canadian coal and leave any fuel which is imported from United States to be used in Eastern Canada. The

Alberta is the Coal-Bin of Canada

only apparent reason why this is not being done now is because people resident in Manitoba have been in the habit, for so many years, of using imported coal, that they have made themselves believe that it is a necessity. It is however, nothing more nor less than a habit. It is being fully demonstrated every day that railway locomotives, stationary steam engines, and buildings of all kinds and sizes can use Alberta coal in Saskatchewan and Alberta with very satisfactory results, so that any person using any other coal but that produced in Canada, in either of these Provinces, or in Manitoba, is doing so without giving thought to the serious fuel situation which confronts Canada and the United States at the present time, and as a result is not doing "his bit".

It is surely only necessary to bring this matter to the attention of each consumer of Western Canada to make sure that every man will do what he can to assist in winning the war, by using nothing but Canadian coal and leaving as much American coal as possible free for the manufacture of war munitions and other essential industries.

The statement has been made on various occasions that Alberta coal will not store and while it may be true to a certain extent regarding about twenty-five per cent. of the production it is not true of the remaining seventy-five per cent. This is not summarizing but a statement of fact as it has been repeatedly found that any of the coals produced in Alberta will store very satisfactorily for any length of time in the cellar of a home and that seventy-five per cent. of them can be stored with the greatest satisfaction in large quantities without any special covering having to be made for them.

JOHN T. STIRLING,

Chief Inspector of Mines of
Province of Alberta.

Canada's Coal for Canadians

Why Want Fuel?

WHY SHOULD THERE BE HEATLESS DAYS IN CANADA?



WHY should the homes and industries of Ontario want fuel while the coal mines of Alberta lack orders?



WHY does the East sacrifice shade trees to keep the fires burning while in Alberta a constant surplus of coal wastes for want of a market?



WHY should the cities of Ontario be driven to adopt drastic measures to prevent wholesale suffering from lack of fuel, when great loads of excellent domestic coal stand for days on the market place of Edmonton because of an over supply?



WHY should citizens in Brantford, Ontario, offer \$40.00 for a cord of wood (equal in fuel value to a ton of coal) when certain small mines in Alberta have closed down for lack of orders, even at \$3.00 per ton at the pit?



WHY should 3,000,000 tons of United States coal enter Western Canada, which could be easily supplied by Alberta, when the same coal would relieve suffering in the parent provinces?

Alberta's Way Round the Coal Shortage

Alberta the Answer

Within Alberta lies the solution of Canada's coal problem.

Alberta has illimitable resources of coal, and coal that meets every requirement of industries and the home. Moreover Alberta has sufficient equipment in operation to go a long way in meeting the present coal shortage of Canada.

Great coal beds underlie every part of the province. The City of Edmonton rests upon layer after layer of coal. Mines are in operation to the north of Edmonton, in the central part of the province, and the mines in the southern part are known to all who travel the overland trip to the coast.

The province uses its own coal **exclusively**. It is used in the stoves and furnaces with immense satisfaction.

Western trains burn Alberta coal in their engines.

All power plants burn Alberta coal with good results and generate steam at an economic cost from lignite **SLACK COAL**.

Anyone under a misapprehension that American coal is needed in the West would find the figures of the cost of producing steam from Alberta lignite slack very interesting.

Unlike the American coal, the Alberta product is free from gas fumes. It comes as anthracite, as bituminous and as lignite which is excellent for domestic use in every shape and grade. Its waste can be successfully concentrated into briquettes, and a small quantity of these is already being exported.

Why then should Canada be cold? Alberta can even now supply all the region West of the Great Lakes and the coal resources are scarcely tapped.

Vast Fields of Coal Underlie Alberta

Each May Benefit

If Ontario hardwood forests are cut down now to supply fuel, it will take centuries to replace them.

If Ontario industries are stopped for part time now owing to lack of fuel, she is losing her chance to make good.

If the munition works of Ontario are closed down now for lack of coal, Canada fails in her duty to the Empire.

Alberta should supply all the West, if not all Canada. But, 3,000,000 tons of American coal are each year coming into the West, which in all common sense should be supplied by its home market. This coal instead of going to Saskatchewan and Manitoba should be diverted to the Eastern provinces.

"All the coal needed in Manitoba and West can be supplied by Alberta," says John T. Stirling, chief inspector of mines for the province.

But according to official reports of 1916, Alberta lignite mines worked on an average only 13.3 days a month, or about 55% full time. Approximately 4,700,000 tons of coal were produced, so it is merely a matter of calculation to show that the 8,000,000 ton estimate, given by Mr. Stirling recently as the capacity of the mines with their present equipment, was a very conservative one.

This would show beyond doubt that Western Canada is absolutely independent of United States coal both for steam and domestic purposes. In spite of this, and in spite of the great pressure that has been placed on the American mines by the war, the importations of American coal have not appreciably lessened.

For the first nine months of 1917 there were 2,213,501 tons imported as compared with 2,217,650 for the same period the year previous. The complete figures for the year are not available as yet.

West Needs Hardwood—East Needs Coal

Re-Distribution

Re-distribution of the fuel supply of America is necessary, especially at this time of world crisis.

Alberta coal is gradually finding its market on its merits, and in spite of certain freight problems the Alberta output is steadily increasing and the exports steadily improving. Where it is once used, it is bought again, which is another way for saying that "the proof of the pudding is in the eating."

To put it into figures there were 1,133,137 tons of Alberta coal shipped into Saskatchewan in 1917 as compared with 993,459 the year previous. 249,549 tons were shipped into Manitoba as compared with 96,971 tons in 1916. This was divided as follows:

To Saskatchewan—	1916	1917
Lignite,	853,046	958,450
Bituminous	140,413	174,687
To Manitoba—	1916	1917
Lignite	79,252	150,510
Bituminous	17,719	99,039

But in times like these a more radical method is necessary to get the fuel supply of the world better distributed, and **fuel distribution should be a matter for government organization.**

Three Transcontinental Rys. Tap Alberta

Problem for Nation

Canada only needs to mine her coal, and distribute it among her people.

It is not sensible to suppose that while the United States is herself cutting down her needs to a rock bottom basis, she will continue to pour the precious fuel into Canada, and especially Western Canada where there is a local supply more than sufficient to cover all demands.

And from now on Canada will be able to rely less and less on the coal supply from the United States.

In the first place, it is not to be expected that the American manufacturers will admit of supplies of coal going to Canada while their own industries are idle for days at a time owing to lack of fuel. Up to the present they have shared and shared alike, but already complaints are coming through, and it is not surprising to read that C. E. Roberts, deputy state fuel administrator for New York is criticising the action of shippers and producers in sending coal to Canada at a period when factories throughout New York State are needing fuel "TO CARRY OUT GOVERNMENT WAR CONTRACTS".

A SURPLUS EXISTS—IT NEEDS MOVING

But while there is this great surplus in Alberta, and while some three or more millions of tons in excess of the present output could be mined with the facilities at present on hand—the plan of distribution is anything but satisfactory.

Put the Box-Cars to Use in Summer



The demand comes in the fall and winter months when the difficulties of operation are greatest; labor has to be taken on wherever it may be found, with no regard to the man's experience. The fall demand, which is always the greatest, comes at the time when the railroads are busy moving the crops and it is difficult to get the rolling stock with which to ship the coal.

The chief difficulty with the profitable operation of the Western mines at the present time is that the work is not permanent. For five months of the year when weather conditions both for mining and for transportation are the worst, the mines work at full speed; then for the other seven months the bigger mines work at a greatly reduced scale and the smaller ones close down entirely.

The actual number of men employed in January, 1917, was 4,973, while in June this number shrank to 2,023, and then again jumped to 5,779 in December.

But—THE OVERHEAD CHARGES RUN ON JUST THE SAME. This is where the waste comes.

No permanent industry can be built on a system of this kind; and it remains for the Dominion government to institute some system that will utilize this force that is going to waste.

Why should the Dominion fuel controller be proposing to cut down the Ontario forest reserves while there is an excess supply of fuel to the extent of several millions of tons in Alberta coal mines, and all the facilities there for the mining.

Work the Coal Mines—Help Win the War

OUTLOOK SERIOUS FOR NEXT WINTER

There is every prospect, too, that bad as is the condition in Ontario this winter, it will be worse next year and every other winter so long as the war lasts, and—so long as Canada depends on the United States for its fuel.

But there is no necessity for this problem—the remedy lies in making use of the Alberta coal.

Pressure should be brought to bear on the proper authorities that no American coal should be shipped west of the Great Lakes.

WHY IS AMERICAN COAL USED?


These are facts that make one believe that it is only custom or superstition that keeps Alberta coal out of the furnaces of every home and industry West of the Great Lakes.

There may be one other reason.

In an investigation that John T. Stirling, chief inspector of mines for Alberta, made in 1915, he states that "he was also informed by one of the dealers (at Maple Creek, Saskatchewan), that they pushed the sale of American coals, as there was a larger margin of profit for them." This was surely frank and bears all the earmarks of being true.

The only reasons that Alberta coals have not been used in greater quantities in Saskatchewan and Manitoba would seem to be that as above suggested, extra profits have lead the dealers to push the sales of the United States product, and the Easterners coming to the West with the habit of using American coal, think they must always have the same coal, no matter what the changed conditions may be, or the discomfort forced on someone else.

Lower the "Overhead"—Make Living Less



There is one characteristic of the Alberta lignite different from the United States anthracite and which has to be taken into consideration. It must be stored in tight sheds, while the other may be stored in the open. But the price of properly constructed sheds placed around through the principal centres of the West may not be compared with the menace to the health and comfort of the people of the East, and to the industries of the country, which an uncertain supply of fuel coming from the United States must mean.

THE MINES MUST PRODUCE THIS SUMMER

But, if the supply of coal is to be equitably distributed next winter, **ACTION MUST BE TAKEN AT ONCE**. Ordinarily the Alberta coal operators have to start laying off their miners early in March as the orders stop coming in then. If they are to hold their laborers this year they must have instructions **at once** that the supply must be kept up throughout the summer.

Storage sheds must be built immediately to house the coal so mined. These sheds should be built at proper distributing points throughout the West or wherever the fuel controller decides that coal is to be distributed from the Western mines throughout the summer months.

An educational campaign must be started by the government, that the people of Alberta as well as those of Saskatchewan and Manitoba will fill their cellars during the summer. Last year, owing to the coal shortage of the previous winter, much more coal was stored during the summer than in previous years.

Our Mine Equipment Can Supply All West

GOVERNMENT ACTION, URGENT NEED

In order to have an economic distribution of resources of the American continent, the Alberta mines should be utilized to assist in supplying a portion of the needs of the Western United States. Arrangements should be made between the two governments that Alberta would undertake to supply those states lying along her border. Already Seattle firms are asking for information about getting in supplies of Alberta coal, and there is no reason that Alberta should not supply that demand, and so release Eastern coal for Eastern states and the Eastern Provinces as well as for the overseas demand.

This plan would also put into operation much railway stock that is now tied up in the long haul of coal from the East.

With a proper distribution of coal there is no reason for a shortage on the American continent. But if the arrangements are to be made to store supplies of Alberta coal for next fall's use, **steps must be taken immediately, before the Alberta mines start to lay off in March.**

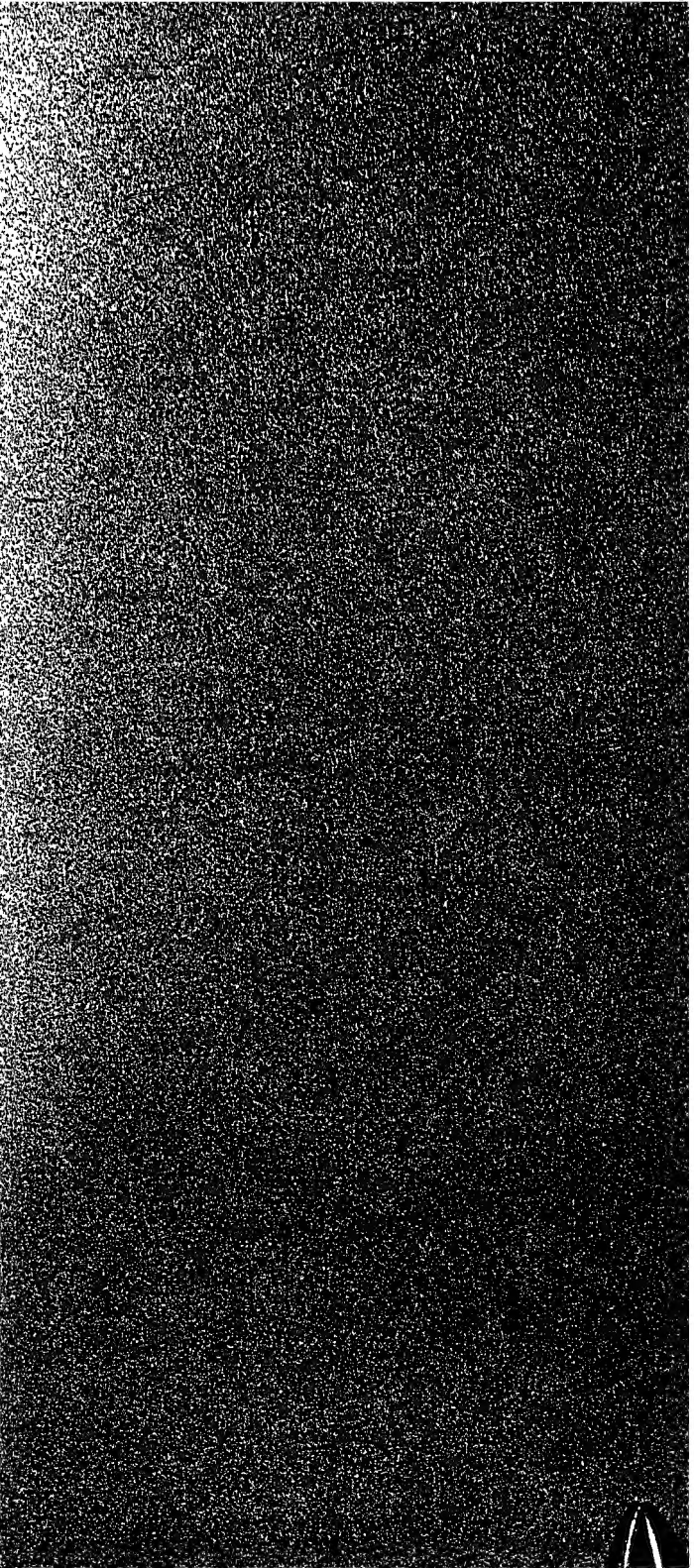
To meet immediate needs, the fuel controller might well be petitioned to divert to the East all coal coming into the Fort William and Port Arthur ports. Then arrangements might be made to supply next year's demand in Ontario as it is found wise in the best interests of the two countries.

Knowing these facts, do you find any satisfactory answer to the question: "WHY is Ontario short of coal."

Storage Sheds Prevent Heatless Homes



ISSUED BY
THE COAL OPERATORS OF
NORTHERN ALBERTA



*Alberta is
the Coal-Bin
of Canada*

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